



Maine Turnpike News

For Immediate Release
September 22, 2006

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Nighttime Closures Planned for Turnpike South Portland (Exit 45) Interchange

SOUTH PORTLAND—Drivers who use the Maine Turnpike's South Portland interchange during the late night and early morning hours may want to adjust their travel plans Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of next week. Tuesday night at 10 p.m., contractors will begin the process of installing steel beams on the new bridge that will carry the Payne Road over the Maine Turnpike's interchange ramps. The beam installation will result in the closure of the northbound exit ramp on Tuesday and Wednesday nights. The southbound exiting ramp and all entering ramps will remain open on Tuesday and Wednesday nights. The entire interchange, including all exit and entry ramps, will be closed on Thursday night.

Northbound Exiting Ramp Closed Tuesday & Wednesday Nights (September 26 & 27)

Between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. the **northbound off ramp** at Turnpike Exit 45 will be closed as contractors install beams on the south side of the bridge. Motorists are advised to use Exit 42 in Scarborough or Exit 46 at the Jetport. Detours will be clearly marked. The southbound exiting and north and southbound entering ramps will remain open through the night.

Entire Interchange Closed Thursday Night (September 28)

Between 10 p.m. Thursday and 5 a.m. Friday the entire interchange will be closed as beams are installed in the center of the bridge, directly above the entering and exiting lanes of the interchange. Again, motorists are encouraged to use Exit 42 in Scarborough or Exit 46 at the Jetport during these hours.

The reconstruction of the Payne Road Bridge is part of the Maine Department of Transportation initiative to improve traffic flow and safety in the entire Maine Mall area. The new Payne Road Bridge will be widened from 4 to 6 lanes to improve traffic flow and will include a sidewalk for pedestrians.

Construction activities may be adjusted due to weather conditions. Turnpike travelers are already being informed about the upcoming closures by flashing highway message boards and recorded messages on highway advisory radio 1610 AM. For additional information about the Maine Mall Area Roadwork or to sign up for e-mail alerts visit www.mainedot.gov.

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